FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 JULY 1985

Kuwait

The 11 July cafe explosions will not make Kuwait give up the course of its pan-Arab policy, Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir stressed in a statement to the National Assembly reported by KUNA. Meanwhile, the authorities announced a reward for information leading to the discovery of the perpetrators of the explosions, which killed 8 people and injured 89 others, the agency noted.

Among the foreign condemnations of the cafe explosions, the Iraqi ambassador denounced the bombings and voiced Iraq's "total support" for Kuwait, INA noted. On the other hand, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Kuwait condemned the bombings, holding the Iraqi regime responsible, and stressed that Iran is ready to help protect Gulf countries against such "dastardly acts," according to IRNA.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq acknowledged that one of its planes crashed in enemy territory 12 July and held Iran responsible for the pilot's safety, according to an Iraqi military communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio. However, an Iraqi military source cited by INA denied Iranian claims that two Iraqi reconnaissance helicopters were downed in the south 13 July.

On land, Iraq crushed two Iranian offensives in the south 12-14 July resulting in 64 confirmed enemy casualties, according to Iraqi military communiques cited by Voice of the Masses radio.

Iranian authorities released the Kuwaiti ship seized by the Iranian Navy 20 June, a military source told IRNA, adding that military consignments bound for Iraq were removed from the ship.

In the wake of recent Iraqi air attacks on Turkish tankers in the Gulf, Iran urged Turkey to show a "suitable reaction" to such "inhumanistic measures," IRNA reported.

Afghanistan

Helicopter Crew Defects — The crewmen of two Afghan MI-24 helicopters defected to Pakistan 13 July after landing at Miran Shah in North Waziristan, Karachi radio reported. However, in a letter to the Pakistani authorities broadcast by Kabul radio, the DRA Foreign Ministry demanded that Pakistan return the two helicopters and their crew as soon as possible, contending that they had landed in Pakistan after losing their way on a training flight. The helicopters have been taken to an "unknown destination" for examination, according to "informed sources" in Miran Shah cited by AFP, and one is an MI-24d, equipped with an infra-red antimissile detection system.

Iranian Attitude — While Iran insists that the Soviet Union leave Afghanistan, this does not mean that the United States should be allowed to replace the Soviets in that country, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani asserted in remarks carried by IRNA 12 July. If the Americans set foot in Afghanistan, they will receive the same treatment as in Lebanon, he warned.

Pakistan

An Islamabad court sentenced seven military officers to lengthy prison terms on charges of plotting to overthrow President Ziaul Haq's government, Delhi radio reported 14 July. The authorities have also arrested about 600 people and seized large quantities of arms following recent Shi'ite unrest in the western city of Quetta, according to an earlier report by the Indian radio. Pakistan's interior minister, in a statement to the Senate published by the Karachi paper *DAWN*, blamed Shi'ite unrest in Quetta on one group that was seeking to capture the leadership of the Shi'a community, backed by "disgruntled politicians" and inspired by "foreign elements."

In a related development, the Iranian Foreign Ministry informed the Pakistani ambassador in Tehran of Iran's "concern" over the clashes between Shi'ites and police in Quetta, Tehran radio noted.

Lebanon

Political Situation — President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed Syria's determination to speed up solutions to end the civil war in a message to President Amin al-Jumayyil over the weekend, Beirut radio reported. "Informed sources" noted that the Syrian leader's message also explained the results of the recent Islamic-nationalist meeting in Damascus, the radio said. One Christian leader, Camille Sham'un, had earlier announced that his National Liberal Party would not recognize any resolutions adopted at the Islamic leaders' meeting in Damascus, according to the radio. On the Muslim side, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt told his fighters in a 14 July speech broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio that there will be no solution to the civil war "unless the Phalangists are uprooted from Lebanon," adding that the PSP has no objection to a truce that would allow it to build military strength. As for Lebanese-Palestinian relations, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Sidon leaders issued a joint statement 12 July telling Palestinians loyal to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to leave Sidon and the south within 1 week.

Detainees — A French journalist in Beirut disclosed that Hezbollah members had told him they regard the kidnapped foreigners in Lebanon as POW's, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon noted.

Syria-Libya

A recent visit to Libya by Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas resulted in a bilateral military agreement "similar to the one signed during the Sudanese defense minister's visit to the Jamahiriyah," JANA reported 12 July.

Sudan

Receiving a "national delegation" of Egyptian parties and trade unions 13 July, Transitional Military Council Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab stressed the "special relations" linking Sudan and Egypt, Omdurman radio reported. The Egyptian delegation also held talks with Sudanese party and trade union leaders, SUNA noted, and the two sides issued a joint communique which included a recommendation that the Egyptian Government extradite former President Ja'far Numayri to Sudan. Meanwhile, Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah told the Khartoum daily *AL-SAHAFAH* that if extradition is impossible, Numayri's deportation from Egypt would "remove the cloud" hanging over Sudanese-Egyptian relations, according to AFP.

Maghreb Affairs

Western Sahara — An SDAR official cited by APS accused France of giving Morocco military assistance in the Western Sahara, contending that French officers are fighting alongside the Moroccan Army on the latter's defensive walls. Another Saharan official denounced an agreement between Morocco and the Club Mediterranee to establish a tourist center in the Western Sahara, warning that the Saharans cannot accept responsibility for any loss of life or material that the Club may suffer as a result, Algiers radio reported.

Tunisia — Security authorities have discovered a spy ring operating within Tunisia in support of the ruling regime in Iraq and financed by the Iraqi Embassy in Tunis, according to a JANA report citing the Tunisian *AL-SHA'B*.

Algeria — President Chadli Bendjedid issued a directive to party organizations on revising the national charter, Algiers radio reported, noting that certain shortcomings cannot be effectively addressed without a new version.

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DRA Demands Pakistan Return Helicopters, Crew

LD141606 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the First Political Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1200 hours (local time) and a letter with the following content was handed to him:

According to information from relevant DRA authorities, on 22 Saratan 1364, corresponding to 13 July 1985, at 1125 Local time two MA-25 [as heard] helicopters of the DRA Armed Forces with a flight crew of seven which was on a training flight over Khost Airport [in Paktia Province] landed in Miramshah Airport [in Pakistan] because they were lost.

The DRA Government demands that the Pakistani authorities hand over these two helicopters with the crew of seven to the DRA as soon as possible.

Four 'Terrorist' Group Leaders Reported Captured

LD131811 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Quoting a spokesman for the security forces in Balkh Province, a BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY correspondent reports that as a result of successful operations which were recently carried out in the area of this province, a number of counterrevolutionaries belonging to the Jami'at terrorist band along with their four savage and murderous ringleaders, were crushed and met the punishment for their deeds.

The source added that Ziaollah and Sadiq — brother of Sediq-e Toup — were the ringleaders of this criminal terrorist band who were responsible for the explosion in Saleem Shah apartment, as a result of which a number of innocent travellers were martyred; and Asef, nicknamed Kandahari Asef, was another ringleader who had been perpetrating unforgivable crimes, murder and plunder of the people and other barbarous crimes and explosions against the toiling people of this region. The other ringleader of this professional band of murders is Qyum, nicknamed Qyum-e Terror, who has been seriously injured and the weapons and ammunition seized by the vigilant security forces.

Rebel Groups Reportedly Clash, Four Killed

LD150640 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 14, BAKHTAR: According to reports reaching here, four members of the Pakistan-based Afghan counterrevolutionary band of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar were killed in an armed clash which took place between that band and the members of another bandit group led by Giliami. Two members of the latter group were injured.

The cause of clash was some disputes over the distribution of goods received from their imperialist patrons.

According to another report, a joint inspection team of the patrons of the Afghan bandits namely, Pakistan, the U.S.A., Saudi Arabia has found out numerous cases of forged entries of refugees.

In one such case, one of the leaders has registered a single emigre Afghan family as eight different families. The leaders of the bandits take bribes are thus thriving rich on registering non-existence Afghan families as refugees and collecting money in their names.

Another report says that a truck belonging to Gulbuddin band heading towards Warsak was attacked near Shahi Chek post of Pakistan by the young residents of Naser Bagh. As a result of this attack, one person was killed and the truck was confiscated by the youth.

BAKHTAR Statement on 'Psychological Warfare'

LD121803 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jul 85

[BAKHTAR statement]

[Text] It is no accident that the April Revolution and the Afghan peoples' enormous victories in the construction of a just and new society have aroused the savage anger of reaction and imperialism — these enemies of peace, freedom, and world progress.

In the undeclared war unleashed against our homeland, revolution, and people by the order of Washington, the aggressive imperialist forces, Chinese hegemonism, Arab and regional reaction, in particular of Islamabad's military regime and Iran's reactionary ruling circles, have a direct and active part in this.

An extended dimension of this war, which becomes increasingly ferocious and intensive, is the unprecedented psychological warfare being unleashed under the control of the espionage and imperialist organizations, in particular the CIA, which has forged ahead as an important factor of intervention in the DRA's internal affairs.

The contents of this psychological warfare against our country are hostilities, lies, fabrications, and seditions fanned up for securing international reaction and imperialism's plundering interests with the intention to cover up their shameful crimes and to explain their notorious and unbridled intervention and aggression.

In order to remedy their defeats in the military fields and the perception of the fact that a military victory by the counterrevolutionaries is impossible, they further fan up this hysterical psychological warfare.

The fabrication of the facts regarding the revolution and our society; the diversion of the masses's opinion from realizing their true enemies, specifically international reaction and imperialism; the distortion of international public opinion to isolate the revolution, homeland, and our people in the international arena; the alteration of the nature of the Afghan-Soviet friendship and tampering with the Soviet Union's military assistance to Afghanistan; the undermining of the DRA Army's combat ability; the maintaining and raising of the mini-counterrevolutionary

groups' moral; and contradicting the revolutionary transformations within the country with Islamic principles are all the hysterical propaganda's political objectives which reaction and imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, have followed in the field of struggle against peace and progress.

In order to attain these [word indistinct] and satanic objectives U.S. imperialism, in alliance with its obedient European and regional servants, has activated all material possibilities and propaganda technology against our country through the expenditure of astronomical sums of money.

In addition to the publication of hundreds of books, pamphlets, propaganda leaflets, montaged and fabricated cinema and television films, publication of satanic rumors by the multitongued imperialist mass media, we can mention the imperialist countries' destructive radios and those radios dependent upon regimes and reactionary circles such as Pakistan and Iran.

These radios broadcast in our country's national and local languages for more than 300 hours a week the worst fabrications and lies against our revolutionary, free, and independent country.

Despite the fact that Voice of America, in spending more than 150 million dollars annually, broadcasts 6.5 hours a day of fabricated propaganda against our homeland, revolution, and people, the United States, through the criminal CIA organization, in contravening the accepted international norms and principles, has recently decided to establish another radio, the so-called "The Free Afghanistan," inside Pakistan.

This radio, within the framework of the CIA's subversive and espionage centers, that is to say the so-called "Freedom Radio," "Free Radio," and "Corporation Radio," will be set up on Pakistani territory by the hellish CIA organization at a total cost of $700,000.

This interventionist action by U.S. imperialism displays the intensification of the psychological warfare against our country parallel to its intervention and armed aggression.

This, alongside the so-called Center of Afghanistan's documents and Afghan press agency, will be used to accomplish the CIA's espionage activities.

The greater the Afghan people's victory — the exported counterrevolutionaries are becoming isolated abroad and are doomed to a shameful and irreparable defeat — to that extent international reaction and imperialism's hysterical propaganda against our country grasps broader dimensions.

On the other hand, the people of Afghanistan have perceived very well from their daily life that the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism, with its all dimensions, has been organized in Washington by the CIA and directed from there.

In increasingly perceiving the truth of the April Revolution and its sacred aspirations, the brave people of Afghanistan, with their struggle and united battle, under the leadership of their vanguard party, the PDPA, will doom these interventions, shameful aggressions, and psychological warfares — carried out through reaction and imperialism's astronomical spending — to failure as the Afghan peoples' historic Loya Jerga clearly demonstrated our peoples' determination against terrified reaction and imperialism.

Life has proven that no futile efforts can divert our revolutionary country's united people from their infallible decision to construct a new and prosperous society.

List of New Ministers, Deputy Ministers Published

BK131408 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] The President has re-allocated the portfolios of the Ministers, Ministers of State and Deputy Minister as follows:

Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmad, DCMLA [deputy chief martial law administrator] and Chief of Naval Staff: Ministry of Communications, Port, Shipping and Inland Water Transport.

Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud, DCMLA and Chief of Air Staff: Ministry of Industries.

Mr Justice A.K.M. Nural Islam: Ministry of Law and Justice and Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Major General Abdul Mannan Siddiqui: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Major General M. Shamsul Haq: Ministry of Health and Population Control.

Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury: Food Division of Ministry of Food.

Major General Mohammad Abdul Munim: Ministry of Agriculture.

Major General Mahmudul Hasan: Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Co-operatives.

Air Vice-Marshal, retired, K.M. Aminul Islam: Ministry of Irrigation, Water Development and Flood Control.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed: Ministry of Commerce.

Dr. M.A. Matin: Ministry of Works.

M. Korban Ali: Ministry of Land Administration and Land Reforms.

M.A. Sattar: Ministry of Jute and Textiles.

Dr A. Majeed Khan: Ministry of planning.

A.R. Yusuf: Civil Aviation and Tourism Division of Ministry of Defence.

Anisul Islam Mahmud: Ministry of Labour and Manpower.

Sirajul Hussain Khan: Ministry of Information.

Dr. T.I.M. Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury: Relief and Rehabilitation Division of Ministry of Food.

Barrister Rabiya Bhuiya: Ministry of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs.

Zakir Khan Chowdhury: Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Anwar Hussain: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Humayun Rashid Chowdhury: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ministers of State:

Sahfiqul Ghani Swapan: Ministry of Communications.

Sunil Gupta: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources.

Zafar Imam: Ministry of Agriculture.

Deputy Minister:

Sheikh Shahidul Islam: Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Ershad Says PRC To Set Up 15 Textile Mills

BK120951 Dhaka BSS in English 0631 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Dhaka, July 12, BSS — Bangladesh's President Hussain Mohammad Ershad said here yesterday that China would establish 15 textile mills and one fertilizer factory under the private sector in Bangladesh.

Addressing a news conference, he said that China would provide up to 90 per cent of the fund required for the setting up of the mills.

He said his China visit was very successful and rewarding because China had assured Bangladesh all possible help and transfer of technology in big industries and factories to the people of Bangladesh.

He expressed his satisfaction that in two years and a half he found that the people of China achieved massive progress in all fields in trade, commerce and industry under the new leadership.

Algerian President's Envoy Arrives 12 July

BK121650 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The special envoy of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid arrived in Dhaka today on a 2-day visit to Bangladesh. The envoy, Mr Ben Ahmed Mohamed Abdelghani, is leading a 3-member delegation. On arrival, the envoy told newsmen that he is carrying a message of President Bendjedid for President Ershad. Mr Abdelghani said as members of the Islamic family and Non-aligned Movement, Bangladesh and Algeria share common views on many regional and international issues. He said his visit aims at further strengthening bilateral relations.

Meets With Ershad

BK131634 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The Algerian president's special envoy, Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, called on President Ershad at Banga Bhavan today. He discussed with the president ways to further

develop the bilateral relation and establish a joint commission between the two countries. An official spokesman said the Algerian trade minister is expected to visit Bangladesh to follow up the matter. International situation, particularly those affecting the Islamic ummah [Community], also came up for discussion.

Leaves for Rangoon

BK131729 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The Algerian president's special envoy, Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, left Dhaka this afternoon for Rangoon after a 24-hour visit to Bangladesh. Talking to BSS at the Zia International Airport, Mr Abdelghani said that he is totally satisfied with his mission.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Saudi Arabia

BK121319 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The Bangladesh foreign minister, Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, left Dhaka this morning for Jeddah on a 5-day visit to Saudi Arabia. During the visit, the minister will hand over a message of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to Saudi King Fahd. He will also hold talks with Saudi leaders on further promotion of bilateral relations and issues concerning Muslim ummah [community].

President Condemns Attempt on Sri Lankan President
BK121615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The president has expressed deep shock at the attempt on the life of President Jayewardene. In a message to Mr Jayewardene, he said he was relieved that the attempt was foiled by the security forces. Giani Zail Singh said such dastardly attempts should be condemned from all quarters. He regretted that it was organized at a tin.e when efforts are under way to find a political solution to the ethnic problem.

Gandhi Clarifies Stand on Emergency, Punjab
BK131118 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said a new scheme will be introduced for the welfare of the Adivasis [tribal people]. Talking to newsmen at Indore Airport today, he said special attention is being paid to speed up the development of tribal areas.

The prime minister clarified his stand on emergency and said what he stated at the press conference in New Delhi recently had not been understood in the proper spirit. He explained that the situation as it existed in 1975 is not prevailing today and hoped it will not recur in future.

On Punjab, Mr Gandhi said that the doors of the government are open for talks. But he could not say anything about the attitude of the Akali leaders.

Later, addressing a public meeting at Jashpurnagar in Madhya Pradesh, he appealed to the people to maintain peace and unity. He said the situation during the last few months has improved because of the numerous steps taken by the government. People have started talking about peace even in those areas rocked by violence some time ago. The prime minister also reiterated the government's determination to eliminate black money [tax evaded money], tax evasion, and black marketering.

The AIR [All India Radio] correspondent, Masud Ahmad, reports from Jashpurnagar that the prime minister also spoke about India's relations with the neighboring countries in his 15-minute speech. Mr Gandhi said that we have been able to create an atmosphere of peace through friendship and cooperation with our neighbors. Earlier, the prime minister visited an interior village and discussed about various development schemes and their beneficiaries.

Longowal Calls For 'Better Climate' in Punjab
BK131114 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has reiterated that the Punjab problem can be solved only if a better climate is created in the state. Addressing a news conference in Jaipur today, he said that steps initiated by the government for normalizing the situation in Punjab will have more constructive meaning if implemented properly. In reply to a question, he said that the Sikh religion has never supported terrorism and has always stood for the nation's unity.

Motorcycle Pillion Riding Banned in Hoshiarpur
BK121605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Pillion riding on scooters and motorcycles has been banned in the entire Hoshiarpur District of Punjab from today. The district magistrate of Hoshiarpur has issued the order, which will remain in force till the 31st of this month.

Minister Chavan Comments on Punjab Situation
BK141617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] The home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, has said that the center is keen to resolve the Punjab problem and hoped that the Akali leaders will also respond favorably. He was speaking to a delegation of the Akali Dal, Master Tarasingh Group, led by Mr Rachpal Singh in New Delhi today. Mr Chavan said the Sikh community has made a lot of contribution to the progress of the country.

The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, today reviewed the law and order situation in the state at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh. He emphasized the need to intensify the drive against terrorists, although the administration is taking a progressively sympathatic view in the cases of persons whose crimes are not heinous in nature. The meeting decided to announce generous awards which could lead to arrest of wanted terrorists. The All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent reports that so far the state government has released 1,332 persons who were not involved in offences like murder, arson, dacoity, and sedition.

Former Chief Minister Claims Attempt on Life
BK130420 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has alleged that a group of unidentified persons tried to attack him near Tangmarg, 35 km from Srinagar, last evening. He escaped unhurt. His security guards fired three shots to drive away the assailants. Later, Dr Abdullah called on the governor to inform his about the incident.

3 Arrested for Assault
BK150325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, three persons have been arrested in connection with the alleged assault on the former chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, last Friday. According to the police, those arrested include the driver of the jeep in which the alleged assailants were traveling. The jeep has also been seized.

Six Injured in Bomb Explosion in Kashmir

BK140817 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] A UNI [United News of India] report from Srinagar says six people have been injured, one seriously, in an explosion at the martyrs graveyard in the city. The report also said that the explosion took place minutes after the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, addressed a meeting there yesterday. The seriously injured have been admitted to the hospital.

Sikh Soldiers Sentenced for Golden Temple Mutiny

HK121300 Hong Kong AFP in English 1150 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] New Delhi, July 12 (AFP) — A military court today sentenced 11 Sikh soldiers to hard labour and dismissed them from service for joining a mutiny after the 1984 army assault on the Sikhs' Golden Temple, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

The prison sentences ranged from 4 to 12 years.

The soldiers were members of the Punjab battalion stationed at Pune, near Bombay, one of several places in northern India where Sikh soldiers revolted following the army assault against Sikh militants at the temple.

Some 650 people were killed, and the army extensively damaged the temple complex in Amritsar, Punjab State, where militants have been leading an autonomy campaign.

Havaldar Baldev Singh, principal accused in the case, received the maximum punishment of 12 years' hard labour for inciting others to rebel.

All the accused were charged with breaking into armouries and leaving their units unauthorized.

PTI said they had taken nine army vehicles, loaded with heavy arms and ammunition, and were heading for Amritsar when they were intercepted by other army units at Mumbra and neighbouring areas.

PTI said that as the court pronounced its decision, two of the accused greeted the verdicts with the remarks "very good," and "dhanyawad" (thanks).

VIP Receptions on Airport Tarmacs Banned

BK130911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] VIP receptions and send-off on all airport tarmacs have been banned. In a communication to the states and union territories, the minister of state for tourism and civil aviation, Mr Ashok Gehlot, has sought their cooperation to ensure a strict enforcement of the ban. The minister has reiterated the need to further strengthen security arrangements at the airports in national interest.

Foreign Secretary Sent to Bhutan for Peace Talks

BK121058 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] India has dispatched Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari to Bhutan to attend peace talks between the Sri Lankan Government and Tamil separatists. The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA said in a report late last night that the decision to send Mr Bhandari to Thimpu was taken at the highest level. Mr Bhandari left for the Bhutanese capital Thimpu last night.

'Over 22,000' Refugees Arrive in Tamil Nadu

BK121634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] According to latest reports, over 22,000 Tamil refugees have arrived in Tamil Nadu [from Sri Lanka] till the 9th of this month. They have been given shelter in 68 relief camps in the state. This was announced in the Tamil Nadu state assembly today by the rehabilitation minister, Mr Ramaswamy.

Delhi Reports Alleged Pakistani Trigger Test

BK130333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Pakistan is reported to have successfully tested, in non-nuclear explosion, American-made electronic triggers. The American television, ABC, has reported this, quoting U.S. intelligence sources. The test was conducted at a secret plant situated near Islamabad. The trigger mechanism secured from the United States is known as krytron and is used to set off nuclear bomb.

Experts in India say that the report that Pakistan carried out a nonnuclear explosion test and had obtained the triggers only confirm that Pakistan has acquired a nuclear bomb capability. The director of the institute for defense studies and analysis, Mr (Subrahmanyam), has repeatedly drawn the attention to the fact that the first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima was never tested in full confidence that it would explode. A Pakistani national was arrested recently trying to smuggle 50 electronic triggers needed for a nuclear explosion.

Meanwhile, a White House spokesman in Washington has said that the United States has sent to Pakistan anti-aircraft missiles and new air-to-air missiles, worth $8.5 million. He said President Reagan recently approved expeditious delivery of these missiles to that country.

Daily Views Speculation U.S. Laser Downed Plane

BK121424 Calcutta ANANDABAZAR PATRIKA in Bengali 29 Jun 85 p 1

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 28 June — The fact that no sympathy or condolence message has been received so far from the Soviet

Union following the crash of Indian plane "Kanishka" has amazed political circles here.

Several Western countries — including the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States — have expressed deep condolences over the incident. Neighboring countries like Bangladesh and Pakistan also conveyed their sorrow. U.S. Vice President Bush has said that the incident has shaken the conscience of the civilized world. But no message of sympathy or condolence has been received from the Soviet Union — considered to be India's friend.

Circles well-informed about the Soviet Union here have analyzed the matter according to their judgment. They feel that the Soviet Union is not yet sure about the causes of the accident — whether it is the work of Sikh extremists or whether some other factor caused the crash. Incidentally, they have also said that the United States was carrying out space war exercises exactly when the Indian plane was passing over the Atlantic, and probably a laser beam accidentally hit the Indian plane. Circles generally considered well-informed about the Soviet Union here, however, feel that there is no basis of reality in this speculation.

Two Afghan Helicopters Land; Crewmen Defect

BK131531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1513 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Two MI-24 type helicopters of Afghanistan landed at Miran Shah in North Waziristan this morning. The crewmen of the two helicopters — who have defected and crossed over into Pakistan — surrendered to Pakistani authorities soon after their landing at Miran Shah. Further details are awaited.

'Defectors' Seek Asylum

PA131630 Paris AFP in English 1615 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Islamabad, July 13 (AFP) — A group of Afghans defectors flew two MI-24 Soviet-made helicopters over the border and landed in western Pakistan today, offcial sources here said.

The two pilots and five technicians flew the helicopters from a military base in Khowst, southeast Afghanistan, to Miran Shah, Pakistan, and asked for political asylum, sources close to the Afghan mujahidin rebel movement said.

It is the first time the large MI-24 combat helicopters have fallen into the hands of a U.S.-allied nation, military experts here said. The last Soviet models known to Western experts date back at least 10 years. In 1981, an Afghan pilot defected to Pakistan after flying over in an M-18 helicopter, a common model. Several Afghan pilots have since done the same.

New Anti-Missile System

NC141450 Paris AFP in English 1426 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] Islamabad, July 14 (AFP) — One of two Soviet helicopter gunships flown to Pakistan by seven Afghan defectors yesterday has an infra-red anti-missile detection system and was introduced in Afghanistan only six months ago, informed sources in the western Pakistani city of Miran Shah said today.

Quoting one of the pilots, the sources said the two helicopters -- an MI-24 and a more advanced MI-24D -- equipped with the infra-red anti-missile detection system, were taken to an unknown destination for examination yesterday.

It is the first time that MI-24 helicopter gunships have landed in a U.S.-allied nation, military experts said.

The two helicopters, fitted with cannons on the underside, were flown from a military base in Khowst, southeast Afghanistan to Miran Shah. They were fully armed for a raid on rebel mujahidin positions in eastern Afghanistan, the sources said.

Five of the defectors had received military training in the Soviet Union and all had served an average of five to seven years in the Afghan Army, the sources added. The seven — three pilots, two co-pilots and two technicians — asked for political asylum in Pakistan.

Officers Sentenced for Plot Against President

BK141353 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] In Pakistan, seven military officers were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for plotting to overthrow President Zia's government. A court in Islamabad after a secret trial announced sentences ranging from 10 years' hard labor to life imprisonment. The defendants were charged last year with plotting to kidnap President Zia, blow up houses of several political leaders, and seize power.

Delhi: 4 Casualties in Karachi Police Shooting

BK130402 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] In Karachi police opened fire on an unruly mob yesterday, killing one person and injuring three others. Some of the rioters burned a solene station and shops. They were protesting against the police raid on the home of an alleged drug vendor. Pakistan authorities also arrested about 600 people in Quetta and seized large quantities of arms from them. This followed Shi'ite unrest. They had clashed with police recently demanding more relgious rights. At least 27 people were killed in the clash.

Curfew Imposed

BK150405 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] In the Chakiwara and Thalakot police station areas of Karachi and in a Baghdadi police station area, a curfew has been imposed following a tense situation. According to an ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN press note, the Karachi south district magistrate said the miscreants had set fire to a government (?building) and damaged vehicles yesterday. Consequently, police were forced to use tear gas. Eleven persons have been arrested and there is no report of any casualties. However, some police officers were injured.

Further Reportage on Rioting in Quetta

Curfew Partially Lifted

BK130349 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] A press note issued by the local administration of Quetta says that life in the city was normal and business establishments were kept open yesterday. The situation in the Qaidabad police station area was peaceful and there were no reports of any untoward incidents.

The curfew has been lifted in the areas of Missan Road, Tawi Road and Zamki Ram Road. However, the curfew is in force in other areas.

Arrangements have been made in different parts for an uninterrupted supply of food to the citizens. Municipal corporation employees have supervised the arrangements for water supply.

Illegal Arms To Be Surrendered

BK131559 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The Quetta district magistrate has issued a press note advising all persons in possession of unlicensed and illegal firearms to deposit such arms in the nearest police station within 24 hours. All those persons who deposit their unlicensed and illegal arms within the stipulated time, that is up to 1600 [1100 GMT] tomorrow evening, will be dealt with leniently. The press note warned that after the expiry of the stipulated time, house-to-house searches will be conducted and any person found in possession of unlicensed and illegal arms will be dealt with sternly.

The curfew restrictions in the Qaidabad area of Quetta were relaxed from 1500 in the afternoon to 1800 in the evening.

Interior Minister's Statement

GF132010 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jul 85 p 4

[Text] Islamabad, July 11 — Following is the text of the statement by the Minister for the Interior on the Quetta incident made in the Senate on Thursday: The demands of the Shi'a community in Pakistan have largely emanated from its ill-founded apprehension that it will lose its identity as a separate religious entity in the process of Islamisation which, in its opinion, has a Sunni stance.

It was against this background that the Shi'a community, under the leadership of the late Mufti Ja'far Hussain, launched the agitation in the year 1980 for the enforcement of Fiqah-i-Jafaria [Shi'ite jurisprudence]. This agitation was called off when the government agreed that the Fiqah [jurisprudence] of one sect would not be imposed on the other. Later, the whole matter was examined in depth, and it was the considered view of the government that the Islamisation process should be confined to the dictates of the Holy Koran and Sunnah [prophet's traditions], and the laws should not reflect any particular Fiqah except to the extent that the personal law of each sect should be based on its respective Fiqah. The Constitution was amended in September 1980 by adding an "explanation" to Article 227, which reads as follows:

"In the application of this clause to the personal law of any Muslim sect, the expression -- 'Koran and Sunnah' -- shall mean Koran and Sunnah as interpreted by that sect."

For a variety of reasons, the Shi'a community did not find the above amendment in line with their expectations generated by the agreement signed with Mufti Ja'far Hussain on July 6, 1980. Their disenchantment and apprehension were fortified when the Punjab government, on October 1 (Moharram 4) 1984 amended the police act of 1930, empowering the district authorities to ban or prohibit the azadari [mourning] procession. This amendment caused a sharp reaction from the Shi'as. The Musavi group in particular launched an agitation for enforcement of Fiqah-i-Jafaria, and for repeal of the amendment in the police act. The government held a series of meetings with its leaders, and finally an agreement was concluded with the Musavi group on May 21, 1985, providing for appointment of a broad-based committee including cabinet ministers, religious scholars of all masalak [ideologies], etc, to look into their demands and to arrive at a consensus on the issues involved with the overriding consideration of maintaining sectarian harmony and promoting national cohesion. The agreement also provided that amendment in the police act would not have retrospective effect on Azadari processions.

The above agreement showed that, regardless of the government's stand on the Islamisation process to be carried on in accordance with the Holy Koran and Sunnah, it was prepared to consider any demand to allay the apprehension of any Fiqah.

Following the decision to set up this committee, contacts were established at the cabinet ministers' level with various group of Fiqah Jafaria, including the Arif Hussaini group, to ensure participation of all groups of Shi'as and ulema/scholars of various schools of thought in the proposed committee in order to make it truly representative in character. Deobandis, Barelvis, Ahle-hadith and Musavi groups of Fiqah-i-Jafaria nominated their representatives for inclusion in the committee.

Syed Iftikhar Hussain Shah, president of Punjab Tehrik Nifaz-i-Fiqah-i-Jafaria [Movement for the Enforcement of Shi'ite Jurisprudence] of Arif Hussaini group also met the minister of justice and minister of state for religious affairs about 15 days ago and promised to meet again on June 30 with a larger delegation of the Arif Hussaini group with the authority to commit on his behalf.

Since no information was received until June 30, 1985, efforts were made to get in touch with Iftikhar Hussain or other prominent members of Arif Hussaini group who by then had apparently decided to go underground.

The Arif Hussaini group perhaps decided to start an armed agitation in Quetta, Lahore and Peshawar. This group intended to sabotage the agreement entered into by the government with his rival, Syed Hamid 'Ali Shah Musavi.

Frankly, what was a fight between two groups for gaining political leadership within the Shi'a community assumed a political character, in which the non-religious demands and elements came to the forefront. This group became militant. Clashes were averted at Lahore and Peshawar because of tactful handling by the local and provincial administration, although the processionists were armed.

Before I proceed further to explain the nature and objective of the agitation started by Arif Hussaini group, resulting in the tragic incident of Quetta, May 1, with the permission of the chair, read out various demands raised by the Arif Hussaini group, which formed the basis of the unfortunate incident at Quetta.

The demands I have read out are all political in nature, except the so-called restrictions on Azadari processions under Section 30 of the police act — a matter which has since been resolved as part of the agreement of May 21 signed by the government and the Musavi group. In terms of the said agreement, government has undertaken not to give retrospective effect to the amendment in the police act and assured the Shi'as that Azadari processions,

traditional or licensed, taken out here to fore would not be affected.

Frankly, Arif Hussaini group's current agitation, has, among others, the following three politial connotations:

It is an internal fight between the two groups to capture the leadership of the Shi'a community;

It is inspired by foreign elements; and

It has the backing of disgruntled politicians within the country.

The government stands committed to the implementation in letter and spirit of the agreement of May 21, 1985. The proposed committee, including cabinet ministers, nominees of all important sects, legal experts, etc, has been constituted, and we propose to announce it shortly to examine all the demands of the Shi'a community raised from time to time by its various groups, including the Musavi group and Arif Hussaini group, to identify the causes of the present unrest amongst the Shi'a community and to suggest remedial steps, keeping in view the implementability of the suggested course of action.

May I assure this august house that our overriding consideration will be to promote sectarian harmony and national cohesion. We are here to promote understanding and to eschew sectarianism and divisive tendencies. The Quetta incident is the result of a political movement and will be dealt with accordingly. As far as the religious issues are concerned, I have already submitted we are going ahead to tackle the issues in cooperation with all concerned.

Foreign Minister on Meetings in Washington

BK131128 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said his coming meetings with American officials in Washington are in the context of bilateral contacts that take place between Pakistan and the United States from time to time.

Talking to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN in New York, he said a review of American economic aid and military sales program to Pakistan would be carried out during the meetings. He would also explore the possibility of extension of American assistance beyond 1987. He said he would also exchange views on regional issues, particularly Pakistan's relations with India. The question of Afghanistan, the situation in the Middle East, and the Iran-Iraq war would also be discussed.

State Minister Discusses Policy on Nuclear Arms

BK131123 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Excerpt] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, has categorically stated that Pakistan does not have a nuclear bomb, has never had one, and does not intend to have one. Its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes and it will always be so. He was speaking on an adjournment motion sought to be moved by Maulana Samiul Haq in the Senate on the recent statement by the Indian prime minister in New Delhi. He said he joins the member in expressing concern over the Indian prime minister's statement. It could betray an inclination in Delhi in favor of nuclear weapons and cast doubt on India's commitment to peaceful use of nuclear energy.

He said Pakistan would like the government of India to note that this issue could be better resolved through a serious and purposeful dialogue than through propaganda and allegations. Mr Zain Noorani emphasized that Pakistan's declaration of intent with regard to its peaceful nuclear program is [its] distinguishable willingness to join with India bilaterally or with other non-nuclear weapon states on a regional or global basis in a solemn treaty to renounce nuclear weapons. But India's unwillingness to convert its unilateral declaration into a binding international commitment not only lacks credibility but could generate suspicion and concern. The fact is that India maintains a large nuclear program outside international inspection and safeguards. It has accumulated a very substantial quantity of (?fission) material. It has even tested explosion technology in 1974. He said in order to reduce and remove concern about its nuclear program, India should be prepared like Pakistan to assume solemn obligations and give foolproof assurances concerning its nuclear program. The mover did not press his motion.

Algerian Envoy Ends Visit, Leaves for Bangladesh

BK120643 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The special envoy of the Algerian president, Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, left Karachi for Bangladesh this morning after a 3-day visit to Pakistan.

During his stay in Pakistan, he delivered a special message from the Algerian president to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He exchanged views with the president and the prime minister on matters of mutual interest.

ICO Secretary General on Aid for Afghan Refugees

BK121135 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The ICO secretary general, Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada, has said he would approach the Islamic Development Bank and other Islamic agencies for providing necessary assistance to the Afghan refugees. In a statement to radio and television in Peshawar today, he appreciated the people and the Government of Pakistan for looking after 3 million Afghan refugees.

About the Afghan problem, he said the ICO had taken a clear stand on the issue in line with that of the United Nations and other world bodies. He hoped the foreign troops would withdraw from Afghanistan soon.

Mr Sharifuddin Pirzada was also briefed by the Northwest Frontier Province governor, Lieutenant General Fazle Haq, and the provincial commissioner for Afghan refugees about the relief operations.

PIA Airlines Resumes Flights to Moscow 14 July

BK141640 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] Pakistan International Airlines resumed its flights to Moscow today. The flights, which were suspended in 1971, will take off from Islamabad every Sunday. The flights have been resumed under an existing agreement between the national airlines of Pakistan and the Soviet Union.

Karachi Reportage on Afghan Rebel Operations

Soviet-Karmal Troops Killed in Farah

BK120824 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that mujahidin attacked a military post in Shindand of Farah Province recently killing 70 soldiers of the Soviet-Karmal forces and damaging two tanks and an armored car used to carry soliders.

Mujahidin Foil Qandahar Attack

BK130856 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that the mujahidin foiled an attack of Soviet-Karmal forces on their position in Spin Buldak town of Qandahar Province recently. According to the reports, several Soviet-Karmal soldiers were killed; and a tank, two military jeeps, and a truck were damaged in the attack.

The reports say the mujahidin shot down a helicopter which was carrying military supplies in the Bazarak area in the Panjsher Valley.

Mujahidin Attack Convoy

BK140642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] According to reports, Afghan mujahidin have launched large-scale operations against Soviet-Karmal troops. The mujahidin attacked a Soviet-Karmal troop convoy in Kabul, destroyed many military trucks, and took 20 prisoners.

The mujahidin destroyed two tanks and five military vehicles in a fierce battle in the Sukhteh Qal'eh region of Balkh Province. Radio Kabul has confirmed the clash in the [words indistinct] region of Balkh.

The mujahidin also attacked Soviet-Karmal troops in Ismail Khelgaon village in Konduz Province, killing or injuring 20 of them.

They also damaged five tanks.

SRI LANKA

Arrested Terrorists Say Jayewardene Targeted

BK130214 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The investigation by Sri Lankan police of the Tamil terrorist bomb plot has revealed that two big time bombs would have blown up not only the presidential secretariat, but the office of the Indian high commission as well, and would have heavily damaged the British High Commission and American Embassy. Security sources have revealed that such a bomb explosion would have (?closed) Hotel Taj Samudra, and Hotel Lanka Oberoi would have been damaged. Several other buildings in the vicinity would also have been damaged.

The two arrested Tamil terrorists have said leaders of EROS — Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students — gave orders to kill President J.R. Jayewardene and hundreds or thousands [as heard] of people in Colombo city. The two terrorists, who are about 25 years old, have said that EROS leaders now oppose Mr Rajiv Gandhi and condemn his policies, the objective of which is to help solve the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. Based on the information from the two arrested terrorists, eight persons have been arrested by police for interrogation. From the investigation, it is understood that there was 137 kilograms of gelignite in the seized van.

Police Seek 4 More

HK130908 Hong Kong AFP in English 0900 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Colombo, July 13 (AFP) — Talks between the Sri Lankan government and Tamil groups in Bhutan were expected to adjourn today, as police here launched a massive manhunt for suspects in an abortive separatist attempt to kill President Junius Jayewardene.

Security sources said police were searching for four people — a woman and three youths — in connection with the abortive Tamil separatist bid Thursday to kill Mr. Jayewardene, apparently by blowing up the presidential secretariat in the city center at a time when he normally arrives there.

The names of the four suspects were revealed during interrogation of two Tamil youths arrested Thursday as they were manipulating a 120-kilogramme (264 pound) bomb inside a parked van, the sources said.

The government said earlier the van was apparently to be driven to the president's office.

Police have already detained seven people for questioning in connection with the incident, the sources said.

One of the people being sought in the manhunt was believed to be linked with a blast at the five star Hotel Lanka Oberoi over a year ago in which a female employee was killed, the sources said.

Meanwhile, sources said the talks between the government and Tamil groups in Thimpu, capital of the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, were expected to be adjourned today.

If the talks were adjourned, the recess was likely to last for about two weeks, informed sources said.

The six Tamil delegations which were asked to present their own proposals for a political settlement did not do so yesterday, the sources said.

A member of one of the Tamil groups attending the talks said here that only one militant group, the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO), made some general remarks yesterday but that the others put forward no specific plans.

The sources said there was disagreement over the type of government and the devolution of power as proposed by the government.

The government was offering greater autonomy to the Tamil north under a unitary constitution while the Tamils were holding out for some kind of federal arrangement, the sources said.

Other reliable sources said government delegation leader Harry Jayewardene was expected back here in the next 24 hours.

Reportage on Thimpu Talks With Tamil Groups

'Peace' Talks To Adjourn

BK131100 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tamil separatist groups and Sri Lankan officials were expected to adjourn secret peace talks on the island's ethnic crisis in Bhutan today without making much progress, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported. The news agency said delegates were likely to agree on a date to resume the Indian-sponsored negotiation before adjourning the 5-day meeting in the Bhutanese capital, Thimpu.

Talks To Resume 12 Aug

BK141059 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] The Bhutan peace talks between the Sri Lanka Government delegation and representatives of the Tamil groups, which began on the 8th of July, adjourned in Thimpu yesterday. The participants unanimously agreed to resume negotiations at Thimpu on the 12th of August to pursue their efforts to find an effective and lasting solution to the political and constitutional problem in Sri Lanka.

According to the Foreign Ministry in Colombo, the Sri Lankan delegation had explained in detail at the conference the government's proposals for the devolution of power at the intermediate and grass-roots level and the scheme of government which will be created to implement these proposals.

The representatives of the Tamil groups observed that if these proposals were to be implemented and were acceptable to the Tamil people, their basic aspirations must be recognized. They would consider the matters discussed with their leadership and the people and resume negotiations, while the Sri Lankan delegation would consider implementing the proposals to the extent possible.

The participants had expressed satisfaction at the useful opportunity provided by the talks for a frank exchange of views under spirit of cordiality and cooperation that prevailed. Sri Lanka's delegation to the Bhutan talks was led by Mr H.W. Jayewardene, queen's counsel.

'Informal Talks' Reported

HK150438 Hong Kong AFP in English 0420 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Colombo, July 15 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government and Tamil groups were to hold an unexpected round of informal talks in Bhutan today, although the main talks aimed at resolving Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis have been adjourned until August, reliable sources said here.

The precise nature or content of the informal discussions in Thimpu, capital of the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, was not immediately known, the sources said.

But they said the unexpected session might be to work out a tentative agenda for the talks scheduled to resume in Thimpu on August 12, the sources said.

The talks last week between the Sri Lankan Government and six Tamil groups, including the five major militant separatist organisations and the main Tamil political party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), adjourned on Saturday.

They were arranged by the Indian Government following talks in New Delhi between Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The government delegation at the Thimpu talks was earlier expected to arrive back here yesterday.

But National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, who has played a major role in the Indo-Lankan dialogue, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today the delegation was now due to arrive here tomorrow.

Reports reaching here said the Bhutanese Government yesterday arranged a sightseeing tour of the kingdom for the government and Tamil representatives, giving them a chance to meet away from the conference table.

Sources said the decision to meet this morning for informal talks may have been taken during the tour. The talks are aimed at resolving Sri Lanka's ethnic crisis. A section of the island's 2.5 million Tamil minority has been waging a bloody campaign for a separate state in the north and east, alleging discrimination at the hands of the Sinhala majority.

Reaction to Talks Noted

HK150828 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 15 Jul 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, July 15 (AFP) — Tamil separatist leaders and the government both said here today that though settlement talks last week produced no tangible results, they laid the basis for future dialogue that might solve the ethnic crisis.

The main Tamil political party, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), said a decision to reopen the Bhutan talks on August 12 showed a commitment by both sides to continue searching for a solution.

"It is true that there was no meaningful progress in terms of substance. But the two sides met and talked and decided to talk again, which is a step forward," TULF spokesman Neelan Tiruchelvam told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali also expressed cautious optimism about progress at the six-day autonomy talks in Thimpu, the Bhutanese capital, ended Saturday.

"One round of talks won't produce magic results," Mr Athulathmudali told AFP. "This is a step by step process and we must see it as that," he said.

He added that headway had been made at the talks in general terms.

Members of Sri Lanka's three main communities — Buddhist Sinhalas, Hindu Tamils, and Moslems — contacted by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE said the government and Tamil statements were a hopeful sign that peace might be achieved.

Many of the island's Moslems are of Arab or Southeast Asian origin.

Members of Sri Lanka's Tamil minority, claiming job and other discrimination at the hands of the Sinhala majority, have been demanding a separate state for the north and east of the country, where they are concentrated.

Five armed separatist groups who were with the TULF at the talks could not be reached for comment on them. The five groups waged a violent campaign for independence until an Indian-sponsored June 18 three-month cease-fire.

Analysts said that their planned return to the negotiating table indicated they also saw the possibility of a settlement.

They said it was unreasonable to expect a quick breakthrough, even a minor one, given the wall of suspicion separating the two races and the bloody independence conflict that has cost at least 2,000 lives in the last decade.

The government's initial intention at the talks, whose contents have not been disclosed in detail, was to open a dialogue with the

Tamils, and find out their views on a package of autonomy proposals, the analysts said.

President Junius Jayewardene had called the talks merely "exploratory."

The autonomy plan was substantially the same as one that emerged at a national roundtable conference last year, the analysts said.

The TULF at the time rejected those proposals saying they did not go far enough, while Sinhalese opposition groups said they gave away too much to the Tamils. The five miltiant groups were not invited to the conference.

"The views of the militants were not known. Moreover the government had not negotiated with the major militant groups before so this was an opportunity to size them up," Mr Jayewardene has said of last week's talks.

The Thimpu talks centred on two issues, sources said. The first was the cease-fire, with both sides making charges of cease-fire violations, and the second was the broad issue of devolution of power.

The government proposed a measure of autonomy to the Tamils under a unitary constitution, while the Tamils held out for some form of federal system that would give them much greater control over their affairs.

With such divergence of views, the month long recess would be needed for the government and the Tamils to come up with fresh ideas, analysts said.

Though the six Tamil groups were given an opportunity to present a settlement proposal of their own, they did not do so, informed soruces said.

Government delegation leader Harry Jayewardene, lawyer brother of President Jayewardene, reportedly said at the talks that he had no mandate to go beyond the proposals already made and turned down by the Tamils.

But the government might later offer the Tamils their own unarmed police force in the north, which would be a major concession as it is a Tamil demand, one analyst said.

Analysts also said that the recess would allow India, which wants a settlement, to engage in a diplomatic shuttle between Colombo and southern India where the armed Tamil groups are based, to narrow their differences.

Sources here today said the Thimpu talks might continue informally today. The Sri Lankan delegation, originally expected back here yesterday, was now scheduled to return tomorrow.

Turkish Envoy Summoned Regarding Attack on Tanker

LD122212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] A Turkish oil tanker, *CEYHAN*, was hit by Iraqi jets this morning in the Persian Gulf. In light of this incident, the Turkish ambassador in Tehran was invited to the Foreign Ministry today. He was briefed on the latest reports about the Iraqi jets' attack on the tanker.

During the meeting, having explained the action taken by the Islamic Republic relief forces to rescue the tanker's crew, the question of attacks by the aggressive Iraqi forces on oil tankers and merchant vessels, which are in breach of all international regulations [words indistinct]. The Turkish Government was then asked to show the proper reaction against such inhuman acts, which are in breach of international regulations; for such acts not only endanger the lives of ships' crews, but objective of these tensions is to invite imperialist forces to enter the region.

Expressing his gratitude for the timely actions taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in saving the lives of the innocent crews of such ships, the Turkish ambassador said he would take immediate action to inform his government about the latest developments in the incident. It should be noted that this is the second Turkish oil tanker hit by Iraqi jets' over the past 3 days.

Turkey Asked To Act 'Suitably'

LD130606 Tehran IRNA in English 0555 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Iran Friday called on Turkey to show a suitable reaction towards recent Iraqi attacks against cargo ships and oil tanker in the Persian Gulf. In a meeting between the Turkish ambassador to Iran, Ismet Birsel, and Iranian Foreign Ministry officials Friday afternoon, the Turkish diplomat was briefed on the situation of the Turkish super-tanker *Ceyhan* which was hit by Iraqi jets earlier the same day. Meanwhile, the Turkish Government was called on to show a suitable reaction towards these inhumanistic measures which were contrary to international regulations. It was stressed that such measures would not only endanger lives of the innocent crew of the ships, but by creating tensions would pave the way for the penetration of imperialist forces in the region.

Appreciating Iran's endeavors to save lives of the crew of the Turkish tankers, Birsel said that he will soon inform his government of the latest developments in this connection.

Ceyhan is the second Turkish super-tanker which has been attacked by Iraqi jets over the past four days. On Tuesday, *Vatan* was hit with an Iraqi missile near the Khark Island oil terminal. The two tankers were on their way from the Khark Island to the Sirri Island about 300 miles away.

Fire on Tanker Almost Out

LD131337 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Over 85 percent of the fire that is burning on the Turkish oil tanker, *M. Ceyhan* has been brought under control, a spokesman for Iran's Oil Ministry said here Saturday. The oil tanker was hit Friday by an Iraqi missile and soon after the mayday call of the ship was received, some tugboats went to the site of the accident, the spokesman said. He added that the Iraqi missile hit the engine room of the tanker, inflicting some damages but no casualties. The damaged tanker is being towed towards Sirri Island, although the fire is still burning in some parts of it, the official said.

He said that *M. Ceyhan* is one of Iran's leased tankers and that the owner of these tankers has to to bear the cost of damages since Iran will not shoulder any expenses in this regard.

Reportage, Comment on Bomb Explosions in Kuwait

'Sources' Say 'Iraq Responsible

LD121356 Tehran IRNA in English 1342 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — At least 11 Kuwaiti innocent people were killed and another 90 wounded when two bombs exploded in two crowded restaurants in the central and southern parts of Kuwait city Thursday evening [11 July], reports reaching here from Kuwait said. These reports added that the Kuwaiti cabinet held an emergency meeting to consider the matter and ordered all roads into and out of kuwait to be closed until further notice.

Up to 0700 local time Friday, Western news media had not put the blame for these explosions on any person or group.

The blasts came six weeks after an aborted attempt on the life of the emir of Kuwait. Despite early reports, evidence found later indicated that the Iraqi regime was behind this attempt. Informed sources have said this attack was planned by Iraq so as to put pressure on Kuwaiti authorities to deal more favorably with Iraqi territorial claims on Kuwait.

Further Details

LD131118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] According to an IRNA report, following last Thursday night's explosions in Kuwait, that country's government has intensified security measures and units of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces are guarding sensitive centers, installations and state departments and offices.

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, in a statement issued in connection with the bomb explosion in that country, while condemning this criminal act, offered condolences to the Muslim nation of Kuwait and the victims of the bomb outrage. In an interview with the IRNA correspondent, the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, while condemning the crime of the bomb explosion in Kuwait, stressed: The creation of tension by the Iraqi regime and its record of resorting to destructive acts in countries of the region, including Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait, and also the abortive assassination attempt on the life of the amir of Kuwait, have clearly exposed participation of the Iraqi regime in these criminal deeds.

Tehran Comments on Explosions

GF131944 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Extortion is a well-known policy which the British used during their control of Islamic countries. Extortion is still used in many political cases. The goal behind extortion is to force a certain country to adopt positions that are not in its interest. The means to execute extortion may be through media, political, economic, or military channels. Some countries use their media trumpets to force a certain country to give in to its will. Egypt did this in the past. Some countries use political pressure and arrangements of political equations in order to force a certain country to give in to its will. Britain acted in this manner with regard to the rights of Argentina. Some countries resort to economic siege in order to impose its will on the political decisions of another country, as has the United States toward Nicaragua and lately in Lebanon. Some countries use military pressure as a proper means to force a certain country to give in to its policies, as has South Africa in Angola, and toward SWAPO, which rejects the draft plan of the [word indistinct] in Namibia.

The most horrible form of terrorism is the use of explosions, carried out in a country in an attempt to force it to give in. Such methods are blind since they are aimed at the innocent as well as others. They take place without prior warning or concern. The problem with this kind of terrorism is that it carries a vague message from the aggressor state to the victim state. However, this message is clear with regard to the source. It is evident that the aggressor is extremely keen to identify itself before confronting the government of the extorted state with a de facto situation.

This brings us to what took place in Kuwait, where terrorist acts were designed first to shake security in this small country before settling other matters. The Kuwaiti people ask, while confronting this retarded style of oppressive terrorism, who masterminded such operations? The answer comes quickly. Those who masterminded these operations are the same ones who want to force Kuwaiti decisionmaking. Those who perpetrated these operations move back and forth freely in Kuwaiti territory and transport explosives in the middle of the day from the border to storage points. They are also the ones who have converted the ports of Kuwait into something similar to camps and converted Kuwaiti commercial ships into carriers of weapons and equipment from the five continents to Kuwait and then on to Iraq. They are the ones who want Kuwait and the other Gulf countries to be the cow that continuously provides them with milk -- the very Gulf countries that provide them with money whenever and however they want. However, one day they will not refrain from slaughtering the cow and dividing its flesh. It is strange that the aggressor did not forget to leave his fingerprints through his statements, witnesses, and direct and indirect statements. The idea is that the aggressor wants to identify himself to the victim and to tell him that he is the culprit and will continue to carry out such acts until he accomplishes his goal.

The problem is that the culprit is not the only side that shoulders the consequences of this matter. This point nowadays is being discussed not only in Kuwait but in all the countries of the Persian Gulf. Iraq is not the only side that shoulders responsibility for what is taking place. While it is true that it is the side that is perpetrating terrorism in the Gulf region, others have helped the Saddam regime to perpetrate his evil either directly or indirectly. All those elements who have committed treachery against their homeland, opened their land wide to Iraqi intelligence under various pretexts and justifications, provided facilities to Iraqi trucks, permitted their seaports and economic and political capabilities to be used in service of this regime, and who have supported the aggressors by making false statements and portrayed the Saddam regime as a gentle lamb today shoulder the responsibility for the innocent blood that was shed on the pavements of Kuwait before the disdainful Kuwaiti people and honest officials, officials who will not keep silent toward such acts.

There is no solution to the issue of terrorism other than to adopt a firm position that confronts the goal of terrorism. The goal of terrorism is extortion. The solution is never to give in. The solution is to adopt a firm and expressive attitude toward the aggressors, else the series of terrorism will continue without limit.

'Unknown Individuals' Claim Responsibility

LD122050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Following the explosion of bombs in two seaside restaurants that left 11 dead and 89 wounded, the court of the amir of Kuwait issued a statement declaring today to be a day of nationwide public mourning.

Political observers are predicting that -- considering regional public opinion is placing responsibility on the Iraqi regime for the recent explosions in Kuwait, which occurred as a continuation of the blackmail policy of that country against the countries of the Persian Gulf -- some unknown individuals have claimed responsibility for these explosions in order to reduce the growing wave of protest against Iraq.

Charge Expresses Condolences

LD131244 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1203 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Jul (KUNA) — The Under Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Majid al-Shahin, has received the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, Mohammad Baqeri, at the request of the latter.

Mr Baqeri stated to KUNA that he had expressed to Under Secretary al-Shahin, his country's regret and denunciation of the incidents of explosions, which occurred in two popular cafes in Kuwait last Thursday. He said that he had conveyed to the Under Secretary Iran's sympathy with the people and the government of Kuwait and he had "strongly condemned the terroristic acts, which were targeted against children and innocent people". He pointed out that these criminal acts were within the framework of the other incidents, which had preceded them in the region, especially in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and UAE.

He said that his country has affirmed its opposition to the attempts to create tension and instability in the region and "it stands by the countries of the region to avert and confront terroristic acts." He added that the Islamic Republic of Iran "stands by the Kuwaiti people in order to uproot the terrorist groups." He said "that is what I had stressed to the under secretary during my meeting with him."

Mr Baqeri has extended his condolences to the families of the martyrs and wished a speedy recovery to the wounded.

Charge Visits Blast Victims

GF141540 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] The Iranian charge d'affaires and members of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait visited today those who were wounded during the explosions which occurred in Al-Sharq and Al-Salimiyah. They had been admitted to Ibn Sina and (Al-Rafiyah) Hospitals.

The doctors of both hospitals welcomed the Iranian charge d'affaires and staff who inspected the wounded, wishing them quick recovery. The charge denounced this barbaric crime.

The agents of the regime ruling in Iraq had exploded bombs in popular cafes in Al-Sharq and Al-Salimiyah residential areas. Nine were killed and a great number Muslim citizens were wounded. Among the dead was one Iranian residing in Kuwait. Two Iranians were wounded. They are in Kuwaiti hospitals.

IRNA Reports Release of Kuwaiti Ship

LD131512 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — The Iranian authorities released Friday the Kuwaiti ship which was seized by the Iranian's Navy for inspection about three weeks ago, an Iranian military source told IRNA Saturday.

He said that after Iran's Navy was advised about the presence of military cargo destined for Iraq on the Kuwaiti ship, *Al-Musharraq*, according to international regulations, the Navy inspected the ship thoroughly and, after having found out that military consignments did exist on board for Iraq, the Iranian Naval forces un-loaded them off the ship.

The source said that if the cargo of this ship had reached Iraq, it would have helped increase Iraq's military power to continue the imposed war against Iran. He emphasised that the Iranian action was based on known international regulation and that the only thing that was exceptional was the humane treatment of the captain and the crew of the seized ship by Iranian Naval authorities. In conclusion, the military source said that Iran's Navy, according to its orders, will seize all ships that carry military cargo for Iraq.

It is to be noted that the Kuwaiti ship, with 10,500 tons of consignment some of which were military goods destined for Iraq and which were seized by Iran's Navy on June 20, were released July 12.

The captain of the Kuwaiti ship, before leaving Iranian waters, in a statement said that Iranian treatment of him and his crew was very well [as received] and that they had been provided with all they needed while at the Iranian port of Bandar 'Abbas.

Khomeyni Addresses University Staff on Islamization

LD151140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to Open University Staff; date and place not specified — read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I thank you gentlemen for your efforts. May God give you and all who run the university success. God willing, you will be able to turn Iran into a university. When the people see that you are performing your duties well and that you are serving them, they will definitely help you and cooperate with you. For the people want their children to be pious and knowledgeable. You should strive to increase religious aspects at the university. Before everything else, the university should be Islamic, because all that the country has suffered has stemmed from those who do not know Islam.

God willing, the future of your university will be good and all your friends will be successful. Of course, the supervision of Messrs Khamene'i and Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Friday imams and the clergymen of the country will help its Islamization further.

We hope that your youth will be trained inside Iran, because our youth are not given fundamental training abroad. God willing, there will come a day when people from other countries will come to Iran to study and we will not need to send anybody abroad to study. This can be possible. To think that one could not study anywhere except abroad is wrong. With such propaganda, they want to lure our youth to their countries, so that they could come back to Iran with their ideologies.

I hope that this and other universities will become centers that will make our youth pious and knowledgeable, so that they are trained in such a way that they would stay away from foreign ideologies, become independent and serve their country and Islam. God willing, all you gentlemen will be successful.

Khamene'i Receives Message From Bangladesh President

LD131714 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July IRNA — The Bangladesh president, Hussain Mohammad Ershad sent a message to his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Khamene'i, Saturday.

In his message, Ershad said "we are deeply sorry for the violation of the June 12, 1984 agreement (through which Iraq and Iran agreed not to attack civilian targets,) and we do call for the observance of all international conventions regarding war."

Ershad also expressed his concern over the escalation of Iraq-Iran war, adding that the Bangladesh cabinet had discussed the issue at its March 24th session.

The message was in response to President Khamene'i's message, delivered to Ershad recently by presidential special envoy.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Delivers Friday Prayer Sermon
LD121308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] On the eve of the anniversary of the martyrdom of the holy Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq — may peace be upon him — and coinciding with Islam's glorious victory over the Iraqi aggressors in the Jerusalem operations, millions of the people of our Islamic homeland in most of the country's cities and areas held politico-religious Friday prayer meetings today.

During today's prayer ceremonies, while chanting crushing slogans, the participants glorified the great victories scored by Islam's combatants during the Jerusalem operations and again demonstrated their decisive resolve to continue resistance until final victory is achieved. During the Friday prayers politico-religious ceremonies, which also marked the death of the crusading theologian Ayatollah Rabbani-Amlashi, tribute was paid to the personality of that worthy fighting clergyman.

The participants in today's Friday prayer ceremonies chanted their crushing slogans: "Death to the USSR!" and "Death to Reagan!" and expressed their anger over the crimes perpetrated by U.S. imperialism and the recent remarks by U.S. President Reagan against the Islamic Republic of Iran and other revolutionary countries.

As in previous weeks, the vast masses of the Tehran Friday prayers congregation held a huge rally in Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares today and observed Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The congregation included 150 repentant Iraqi POWs, 150 members of the Mik mobilization of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Lahijan, and 200 Ahvaz citizens. Also, 10,000 students from the resistance bases of the mosques in Tehran's 12th region attended today's Friday prayers in Tehran.

In his sermons in Tehran's Friday prayers, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed condolences on the anniversary of the martyrdom of the holy Imam Ja'far al-Qadiq — may peace be upon him — to the imam of the era — may God Almighty hasten his honorable coming — and to the imam and the Muslim nation. He expressed sorrow for the death of Ayatollah Rabbani-Amlashi and paid tribute to that fighting clergyman.

Before giving an account of the official visit by the high-ranking political and economic delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran to Libya, Syria, China, and Japan, Tehran's Friday imam referred to the reasons for and the motives of that historic visit by saying: The psychological warfare waged by our enemies against the Islamic Republic, on which the agents of arrogance worked hard, culminated in victory for the Islamic Republic of Iran, thanks to our well-conceived plans. One aspect of those plans was retaliation in the war of the cities, and facts and figures have shown that the Iraqis suffered more grievously in that war. It was the strong hand of our combatants and our nation which brought victory to the Islamic Republic during that phase.

Another aspect of this psychological warfare was the steps taken by the counterrevolution to prevent the people from continuing their defiance of the imposed war. These steps were fortunately frustrated thanks to the warm reception accorded by the people to the march on Jerusalem Day. That momentous march played a worthy role in the success of our visit to the foreign countries.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, referring to the operations by Islam's combatants on the battle-fronts, said: The continuation of those same initiatives enabled our combatants, with their Badr and Jerusalem operations, the Zafar operations, and other attacks, to administer a sharp slap to the Iraqi regime.

Referring to the grievous blows received by Iraq as a result of striking at our country's cities, Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: This crime by the Iraqi regime caused our combatants to become more mobile on the fronts, and if that regime continues in the future to strike our cities it will most certainly receive a crushing blow.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council also called on our young men and combatants who have received training to go to the fronts, and said: Now is the time to go to the fronts; we have no need to strike at their cities, and we will give our main response to the enemy on the fronts.

In connection with his visit to Libya and Syria, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: This visit took place following the plots aimed at dealing a blow at the steadfastness front. Fortunately, thanks to the mutual understanding which we enjoy with the leaders of these countries, the enemy's plot was neutralized.

Referring to the Islamic Republic's foreign diplomacy and its role in making known the aims of the Islamic Revolution to the world, and also referring to the official visit undertaken by the high-ranking political and economic delegation to the PRC and Japan, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: The United States and Iraq, using their propaganda throughout the world, portrays Iran as a war-monger and supportor of terrorism, while Iraq is portrayed as peace-loving and powerful. Therefore, he deemed it necessary to give a positive reply to the official invitation extended to us by the leaders of China and Japan which has remained in abeyance for a year for certain reasons. And we decided to visit these countries in order to acquaint the world with the aims of the Islamic Republic and also with its power and stability.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The United States and our enemies devoted their entire efforts to overshadowing the Iranian delegation's visit with their propaganda slanders. But fortunately, thanks to our political moves and expounding the aims of the Islamic Revolution and of our democracy, these plots were frustrated and the Chinese and Japanese leaders reached the

conclusion that Iran is situated in the most sensitive part of the world and therefore is the most appropriate country to defend world stability and regional security. We were able to achieve our aims and the interests of both sides were secured during this visit.

Denouncing world terrorism, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: In our press conference during this visitwe frustrated all the enemy propaganda in which they portrayed us as supporters of state terrorism. While condemning assassinations and terrorist actions, we said that the problem — the instigators of which are imperialism and Zionism — should be dealt with from the grass roots.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council added: In Japan and China we explained our own position in the war imposed by the Iraqi regime on Iran, and we told them: In order to dry up the roots of mischief and war in the region the Iraqi Ba'thist regime should be destroyed!

IRNA: Further Details

LD121713 Tehran IRNA in English 1510 GMT 12 Jul 85

["Friday Prayers: 'Beijing, Tokyo Visits Clear Dust From Iran's Stand in the Imposed Iraqi War'" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Majlis speaker and temporary leader of the Friday mass prayers of Tehran Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here today that his visit to Beijing and Tokyo last week had helped clear much dust from Iran's stand in the Iraq-Iran war and other world issues.

The Hojjat ol-Eslam who was officiating the Friday congregational prayers at the compounds of Tehran University said before a multitudinous group of worshippers that during the stay in Tokyo of the Iranian delegation, the Japanese officials did not in the least try to get any concessions from the Islamic Republic but that they dealt in a straight-forward manner favouring dealings between the two countries on a fair and equal basis. He said the Japanese people and their government officials highly respect the leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni.

Rafsanjani said that initially Japanese officials argued in favour of a temporary ceasefire between the Islamic Republic and Iraq, but he said that in the course of later discussions between the Iranian delegation and Japanese officials, the latter were eventually convinced that a temporary ceasefire under whatever name between the two countries would never lead to any lasting peace in the region.

He said the Iranian delegation had made its point that in order to have a viable peace in the region, all elements which are potential threats to peace should be eliminated. He said public opinion as well as mass media in Japan had voiced support for Iran's stand in the war and its declared pre-requisites for a lasting peace in the Persian Gulf.

Iran's Majlis speaker said that the visit to Beijing and Tokyo of the Iranian delegation had also served to neutralise much of the global propaganda by Washington and imperialist governments against the Islamic Republic.

He said during his stay in Japan which also coincided with a group of American nationals being taken hostage in Lebanon, he had dealt in detail with the issue of terrorism and had successfully defended Iran's position. He said rather than agreeing to condemn this or that terrorist group here or there throughout the world, he had argued in condemnation of the "root of terrorism" and criticized Washington and Paris as the two governments openly supporting terrorism and promoting terroristic operations here and there in the world.

Since the culmination of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, said Rafsanjani, the Islamic Republic had suffered most as a result of terroristic acts by the counterrevolution in and outside of Iran and that as a ntural consequence, the Islamic Republic is against terrorism more than any other country. "What is at issue between Iran and the Western world is the inherent meaning of terrorism versus the definition proposed for the word by Washington and certain other Western governments."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani argued despite its vast implications, why Washington's allocation of 14 million dollars for building up anti-state terrorist groups in Nicaragua is not "terrorism" whereas the hijacking of a passenger plane by a handful of other people should be termed thus. He argued why Washington's terroristic acts in Nicaragua should be connived at by the rest of the world simply because the decision for the action has been endorsed by the U.S. Congress.

Elsewhere in his sermon to the worshippers at the compounds of Tehran University here Friday, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that the Japanese had been somewhat surprised at learning about Iran's stand in relation with the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. He said that in his talks with the Japanese officials, he had made it clear that already the Islamic Republic has good relations with Moscow and that it looks forward to furthering these relations, but that all the same it does not endorse the Soviet occupation. The Iranian delegation had expressly said to the Japanese officials that as Iran sees it, Afghanistan is not a country whose fate can be negotiated with a foreign power, and that the country should be left to its own people. The Islamic Republic insists that the Soviets vacate Afghanistan, but reminded, "it would not mean that the Americans should be allowed to replace the Soviets in the country. Should the Americans be tempted to set their feet in Afghanistan, they will receive the same treatment they did in Lebanon."

Iran's Majlis speaker said that the visit to Beijing and to other cities in China by the Iranian delegation had brought similar results as their later visit to Tokyo. He said during his informal talks with the Chinese officials they had told him that they had not fully grasped the implications of the Islamic Revolution in Iran at its outset but that gradually they had come to grip with the realities of the revolution in Iran.

Rafsanjani said the Chinese officials had said that the massive rallies in Tehran and elsewhere in Iran on June 14th (Qods Day) by multitudes of people who had taken to the city streets braving Baghdad's threats of aerial attacks had caused millions of people

the world over to have second thoughts about their earlier outlooks on the Islamic Revolution and its supporters in Iran, and appreciate the revolution and the nation's stand in relation with the world developments.

He said an influential Chinese official whom he had met during his visit to Beijing had referred to the counterrevolution in Iran as being a fifth colum of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force and the brain-child of the former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Envoy Meets with Nicaraguan Foreign Minister
LD121653 Tehran IRNA in English 1423 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Managua, July 12, IRNA — Iran's ambassador here, Mohammad Peyrovi, met with the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Padre Miguel D'Escoto Brockman who is passing the sixth day of his fasting in protest to the terroristic policy of the U.S. Government against the Nicaraguan nation. This measure has been welcomed throughout Nicaragua and by those clerics who share his views as well as being supported in other countries.

The Iranian ambassador submitted a message from Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati to D'Escoto who said he was pleased that with this revolutionary move the Catholic Church of Nicaragua had become a pioneer in supporting the oppressed Christians of the world. He expressed solidarity with this revolutionary act adding that simulataneous with the Nicaraguan nation who were suffering from various pressures of imperialism, the Iranian nation was fighting against the arch Satan, the United States, and its subservient agents in the region, that is the Iraqi regime, under attacks with missile, bombs and lethal chemical weapons.

Peyrovi then called on the Nicaraguan minister to pray during these divine moments of his fasting for the rescue of the revolutionary and Muslim nation of Iran from U.S. conspiracies and the imposed war of imperialism, as well as the achievement of an honourable and stable peace in the region.

Mr. D'Escoto also expressed his solidarity with the Iranian nation and his personal appreciation to Dr. Velayati for his moral support. He also reiterated his desire that the Iranian nation achieve real peace.

Mir Mehdi Discusses Ties With Angolan President
LD121807 Tehran IRNA in English 1724 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister in Charge of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Mir Mehdi Thursday submitted a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic to his Angolan counterpart, Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The deputy foreign minister who is leading a delegation to Angola, discussed mutual relations and explained the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic in giving priority to holding relations with the combatant African countries.

The two sides also discoursed about issues of South Africa, the Non-Aligned Movement meeting to be held in Luanda and the publication of a joint statement on the establishment of relations between the two countries.

The Angolan president thanked Mir Mehdi for Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i's message and stressed on the expansion of relations between the two countries.

The Iranian delegation also met with the Angolan foreign minister and deputy foreign minister and discussed issues of mutual interest, bilateral relations, the war crimes of the Iraqi regime in attacking residential areas and the Non-Aligned Movement.

Musavi Congratulates Hungary's Lazar on Reelection
LD131712 Tehran IRNA in English 1633 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — The Iranian prime minister, Hoseyn Musavi, Saturday sent a cable to the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic, Gyorgy Lazar. In his cable, Musavi congratulated Lazar on his re-election.

Turkish-Iranian Transportation Talks End in Tehran
TA110459 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 0430 GMT 11 Jul 85

[Text] Turkish-Iranian transportation talks have ended in Tehran. At the end of the 2-day talks, a decision was made to carry out joint work on issues concerning highway, maritime, and air transportation. Problems concerning the Turkish trucks delayed at Iranian border crossings were also discussed at the talks.

Deputy Economic Minister Leaves for Turkey 12 Jul
LD121724 Tehran IRNA in English 1440 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Deputy minister in charge of economic and international affairs, Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili Friday left for Turkey with a message of President 'Ali Khamene'i for his counterpart, Kenan Evren. He is also to attend the second meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) to discuss the expansion of existing cooperation among the three countries of Iran, Turkey and Pakistan.

Economic Cooperation Organization Meets in Ankara
LD132134 Tehran IRNA in English 1905 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Officials from Iran, Turkey and Pakistan, the three members of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), met Saturday in the Turkish capital city of Ankara.

In their first session, the three countries approved the ECO budget for 1985-1986 and during the coming sessions which are to last until Monday, they will review the mode of operation for the second half of the current year.

Iran is represented by Hoseyn Kazempur-Ardabili, deputy Iranian foreign minister with Turkey being represented by Necdet Tezel, adviser to the Turkish foreign minister while Pakistan is represented by Niaz Nahid, special adviser to the Pakistani foreign minister.

Informed sources indicated that in the second half of the current year, ECO will concentrate its activities in the fields of banking, insurance, communication, consulting engineering, and agriculture.

The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) started its activities in earnest last year when it officially replaced the now defunct Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) organization which comprised the same three countries as members.

'Concern' Expressed Over Clashes in Pakistan

LD141109 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] In the wake of recent clashes between the police and Shi'ites in Pakistan, this morning the Pakistani ambassador was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and was informed about the concern of the Islamic Republic of Iran over these recent clashes.

In the course of the meeting, our country's political undersecretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, taking cognizance of U.S. conspiracies against Islam and Muslims in the region, expressed the concern of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as a friendly and neighboring country, about these clashes.

IRNA Reports Defection of Afghan Crewmen

LD141358 Tehran IRNA in English 1338 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 14 IRNA — Informed Afghan sources told IRNA that two Afghan helicopter pilots on Saturday flew their aircraft with their seven passengers to Pakistan.

Afghan mujahidin news sources said the two choppers landed in at Pakistan's Miran Shah region 300 km. southwest of Islamabad. Pakistani sources also confirmed that two MI-24 helicopters landed in Miran Shah and the people aboard gave themselves up to Pakistani officials. This is the sixth such incident that has occurred since the Soviet Union occupied Afghanistan in December 1979.

Assembly of Experts Selects New Presidium

LD131206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] The Secretariat of the Assembly of Experts announced: The third annual session of the Assembly of Experts was held this morning. During this session, Ayatollah Meshkini, speaker of the Assembly of Experts, paid tribute in his pre-agenda speech to the late Ayatollah Rabbani-Amlashi, second deputy speaker of the Assembly of Experts, for his valuable and sincere services.

As the first item on the agenda, the assembly selected the Presidium of the Assembly of Experts as follows: Ayatollah Meshkini, speaker; Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, first deputy speaker; Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Amini-Najafabadi, second deputy speaker; Hojjat ol-Eslam Taheri-Khorramabadi, secretary; and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mo'men, secretary.

The Assembly of Experts then began its debate on the report of the commission for Article 107 of the Constitution. After speeches by supporters and opponents of the article, its generalities were approved. Further debate on the clauses of this article was adjourned until this afternoon's session, which will began at 1600.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,162

LD121644 Tehran IRNA in English 1621 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command said Friday that an Iraqi patrol unit intending to infiltrate the positions of Islamic combatants in Pich-e Angizeh, in the south, was severely suppressed at 02:30 hours Thursday (23:00 GMT).

In its Communique No. 2162 issued Friday, the Joint Staff Command further said that the gendarmerie forces zeroed in on enemy positions on Arvand River banks and smashed 10 group bunkers and observation posts and one weaponry position of the enemy killing or wounding 11 Iraqi troops. One case of fire broke out in Khorramshahr and Abadan while four houses were damaged as a result of Iraqi long-range fire upon the two cities.

In the western fronts around Sumar, an Iraqi patrol unit tried to approach the Islamic combatants' positions around midnight Thursday but was forced to retreat.

Enemy positions and logistic routes were under heavy artillery fire of Islamic defenders in the operational regions of Sardasht, Haj 'Umran, and Marivan, in northwest Iran during the past 24 hours during which the enemy sustained casualties and losses. There movements were also stopped in these fronts.

The Joint Staff communique also referred to the downing of an Iraqi Sokhoy-22 fighter bomber over Piranshahr skies, in northwest Iran at 08:20 hours local time (04:50 hours GMT) adding that the pilot was captured.

Captured Iraqi Pilot Interviewed

LD121918 Tehran IRNA in English 1841 GMT 12 Jul 85

[tExt] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — In a television interview carried by the Iranian television here today, Second Lieutenant Hazem Fazil, pilot of an Iraqi Sokhoy plane confirmed that a group of Iraqi pilots had recently decided to bombard Saddam Husayn's palace which scheme he said had been discovered. He said he did not know anything about the fate of the Iraqi Air Force pilots implicated in the scheme.

Asked about Saddam Husayn's ideas of the war of the cities the captured Iraqi pilot said the ruling government in Baghdad believes that by waging the war of the cities it can halt the war. He said in his judgement attacks against towns and cities is "unjustified and dastardly." He said his captors have been very nice to him.

The Iraqi Air Force pilot was captured Friday morning as his plane was shot down near the Iranian city of Piranshahr at 04:50 hours GMT.

POW's Cite 'Heavy Casualties'

LD121404 Tehran IRNA in English 1333 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 12 IRNA — Iraqi forces have suffered heavy casualties and losses in the recent penetrating operations of Iranian Muslim combatants in the region west of Meymeh River early Thursday [11 July], Iraqi POW's captured in Thursday's operation told IRNA here Friday.

Yasin Attiyah 'Abbas from the first battalion of Iraq's 805th Brigade said that he had seen the deputy commander of the brigade "Colonel Qasem Mohammad Heidar" escape in the early hours of Thursday when Iranian Muslim combatants surrounded their headquarters killing many Iraqi troops in the process. He added that he was astonished at the Iranian combatants' speed which denied the Iraqis any opportunity for showing any reaction.

Matayer Asi Mehdi, another Iraqi POW, said he had seen the bodies of over 100 Iraqi dead soldiers when he was coming to surrender himself to the Iranian forces. He added that the dead bodies of so many Iraqi troops indicated Iraq's severe defeat in this operation.

On the effects of the Iranian penetrating operations on the Iraqi troops' morale, another Iraqi POW, Moshen Ghazban Kazem, said since last month when the Iranian forces' commando attacks started, the number of Iraqi soldiers deserting the fronts has been increasing because these commando attacks had exhausted Iraqi troops more than the regular operations carried out by the Iranian Muslim combatants.

In the early hours of the attack, all the Iraqi positions in the operational region fell, another Iraqi POW, Aude Jasem Mezban said, adding that a large number of Iraqi commanders were killed in this attack.

Iraqi Counteroffensive Repelled

LD121457 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 12, IRNA — A major enemy counter-offensive was repelled near Shahrani outpost in the south Thursday night [11 July] with the enemy suffering heavy casualties.

The Iraqi Army launched the counter-offensive at 24.00 hours local time Thursday (20:30 GMT) following its repeated defeats in order to preserve the morale of its troops. The Islamic combatants thwarted the counter-offensive killing or wounding a group of enemy troops and demolishing a large amount of their armoured equipment. [Sentence as received]

Iraqi Aircraft Violate Airspace

LD121700 Tehran IRNA in English 1656 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 12, IRNA — Two Iraqi aggressor planes violated the airspace of some cities in west of the country during the 24 hours preceding Friday. Meanwhile, Iraqi planes violated the airspace of Sanandaj twice Friday between 10:00 to 10:15 hours local time (06:30 and 06:45 GMT) and broke the sound barrier. The aircraft were forced to flee by the anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic defenders.

Iraqi Battalion Destroyed

LD121733 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jul 85

[Text] The combatants of Islam, in continuation of the Zafar-II operations and in the course of an infiltration operation, inflicted significant blows upon the enemy forces yesterday in the region south of Bayat.

According to a report received from Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, the joint operational headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, the valiants of the monotheist army succeeded in these operations, by killing and wounding dozens of Saddamist troops while destroying an enemy battalion. The combatants of Islam, by opening their heavy fire, succeeded in destroying large amounts of the enemy's equipment and in capturing 50 men of the Ba'thist forces.

POW's To Be Released

LD131059 Tehran IRNA in English 1053 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Fifty-five disabled Iraqi POW's will be released unilaterally by the Islamic Republic of Iran on Monday, July 15. The War Information Headquarters, announcing this Saturday, said that local and foreign reporters can cover the event. Reporters should be present at the Number One Terminal at Mehrabad International Airport at 08:00 Monday, the announcement added.

Source Claims Low Iraqi Morale

LD131324 Tehran IRNA in English 1150 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan prov., July 13, IRNA — The successful results of the continuous Qod and Zafar operations of the Iranian forces have unsettled Iraq's military commanders and crippled their strategic planning, a high military source said Saturday.

The source who was speaking to IRNA somewhere in the southern front, added that intelligence reports obtained from the Iraqi Army indicates that the penetrating operations of the Islamic forces which started last month from the northern

reaches of the front all the way to the southern part of the region, have weakened the morale of the Iraqi troops in a way that during the said period, because of being on a constant state of alert, they have become very exhausted.

The Islamic forces who have proved their ability in their classic military operations, were also successful in commando operations as well as surprise nightly attacks.

The source concluded by emphasising that the penetrating commando operations of the Islamic forces would take place anytime and anywhere in the front and the Iraqi army cannot in any way stop Iran's nightly surprise attacks.

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled

GF131448 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] According to a report by a Central News Agency correspondent, during the past 24 hours Saddam's aggressive mercenaries, in continuation of their criminal activities, shelled the residential areas of the resistant city of Abadan with heavy and long-range artillery, resulting in the destruction of 10 houses in various parts of this city. During this period Khorramshahr also was shelled by the heavy artillery fire of the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy.

Iraqi Troops Executed

LD131718 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov, July 13, IRNA — More than 200 Iraqi soldiers and NCO's were executed in Baghdad and Ba'qubah recently for desertion and refusing to fight against the Islamic Republic, said an Iraqi POW, Sa'd Saleh Mehdi of Iraq's 805th brigade in an interview with IRNA, Saturday. He added that desertion from the war fronts have become a routine. Saleh Mehdi also said that the Iraqi regime, unable to send home the dead bodies of Iraqi soldiers who were killed in Badr operation, has buried them in mass graves.

Another Iraqi POW, Qasem Fazel Salman said that the Iraqi regime, in order to divert public attention from the war has cut the electricity of Basra, Mandali, Al-'Amarah and other border cities while the Islamic Republic television was showing documentary films on Badr operation.

On the Iraqi nation's dislike of Saddam and his family, another POW said that people present at a stadium shouted slogans against Saddam and threw stones, while Saddam's oldest son appeared at the stadium recently. "Security forces then fired tear gas canisters at the people and arrested many of them", he added. All three POW's were captured in Qods-3 operation recently.

Communique No 2,164

LD131812 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 13 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 13, IRNA — Over the past 24 hours, Iranian combatants in the central sector of the war fronts killed or wounded at least 26 Iraqi troops while destroying more than 14 of their bunkers, Communique Number 2164 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said Saturday.

In the northern parts of the front, exchange of fire continued between the Iraqi enemy and the Iranian defenders as a result of which the enemy suffered some casualties and damages.

In the southern fronts, the communique said that artillery exchange continued and to the west of Meymeh River, Iranian forces succeeded in destroying a number of Iraqi tanks. An enemy patrol unit which was going to penetrate the Iranian position near the Dehloran-Mehran road was beaten back in Nasrian Valley, while another patrol unit which was going to advance in Pich-e Angizeh region was also beaten back by the Iranian defenders.

The gendarmerie units on the banks of Arvand River destroyed six enemy bunkers while killing or wounding nine Iraqi troops.

The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr suffered the long range fire of Iraq guns over the past 24 hours as a result of which, ten houses were damaged in Abadan and three in Khorramshahr, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Jets Violate Airspace

LD141210 Tehran IRNA in English 1204 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 14, IRNA — Iraqi jets violated the airspace of the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr twice Sunday morning. Faced with the quick reaction of the Iranian defenders, the intruding jets had to flee and they dropped their bombs on two villages in the vicinity of Abadan and Khorramshahr. Several houses and cars were damaged as a result of this cowardly act of the Iraqi pilots. There are no reports yet available about the full extent of damages and possible casualties.

Over the past 24 hours, the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr suffered the long range fire of Iraqi guns as a result of which, three houses were damaged in Abadan and some localities in Khorramshahr were also damaged.

Communique No 2,165

LD141748 Tehran IRNA in English 1721 GMT 14 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA — A military communique published here Sunday said sporadic artillery fire was traded between Iran's Muslim combatants and Iraqi forces in many of the western and southern battlefronts throughout Saturday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2165 said that on Saturday, two reconnaissance Iraqi helicopters had been downed downed by Iran's Muslim combatants near Nahr-Anbar and burned to ashes.

In Sardasht and Haj 'Umran, sporadic artillery fire was exchanged between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops on Saturday, the Iranian forces inflicting substantial damages and casualties upon the Iraqi forces. Elsewhere in the

western fronts artillery battles between the Iranian forces and the enemy troops went on and it was a little heavier in and near Khosravi and Naft-e Shah of Iran.

At 00.30 hours GMT on Saturday a group of enemy patrol units tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar but were immediately repelled by the heavy fire of the Muslim combatants.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts artillery duels continued between the warring troops on Saturday with enemy's fire being silenced and damages and human casualties inflicted on them.

In the early hours of Saturday morning a number of Iraqi fighter bombers bombarded the Iranian town of Maysan and its outskirts but no casualties were reported. Related reports said at 17.30 hours GMT on Saturday, Iraqi fighter bombers invaded the air space of the Iranian city of Abadan but were immediately repelled by the ground-to-air fire of the Iranian forces.

In Arvand River fronts on Saturday gendarmerie units responded to enemy fire from across the river levelling four of their bunkers and observation posts, three ammunitions tents, one loader truck and one of their mortar launchers killing and wounding many Iraqi soldiers.

Forces Raid Northern Iraq

LD150912 Tehran IRNA in English 0903 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbaijan Prov., July 15, IRNA — The Islamic combatants of Iran inflicted another fatal blow on the Iraqi Army in a penetration operation 30 kms deep inside Iraq Sunday night.

During the operation, started at 2300 hours local time (19:30 GMT) in northern Iraq, heavy damages and casualties were inflicted on the Iraqi forces.

In an other development, a group bunker of the Iraqi forces in one of the strategic heights, 40 kms deep in northwestern Iraq, was bombed by two Iranian fighter planes Monday morning.

In this successful operation, launched at 0730 hours local time (04:00 GMT), 70 percent of the Iraqi forces and equipment in the region were set on fire and destroyed.

The Iranian jetfighters returned to their bases safely after carrying out their mission successfully.

Iraq Artillery Hits Cities

LD151141 Tehran IRNA in English 1115 GMT 15 Jul 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 15, IRNA — The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, in the southern province of Khuzestan, were targets of Iraqi artillery fire during the past 24 hours, it was announced Monday.

In Khorramshahr a hospital and a renovated government building were damaged and three people injured while five residential quarters were also damaged in Abadan.